

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00580 231631Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 TRSE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 /109 W
-----104770 231636Z /72

O R 231555Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6996
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 580

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: WA, SF, PORG
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: DRAFT COVER LETTER FOR SOUTH AFRICA

REF: USUN 1048,

FOLLOWING ARE THE JOINT COMMENTS OF CAPE TOWN FIVE ON THE
DRAFT LETTER PREPARED BY THE UK TO ACCOMPANY PRESENTATION OF
THE PROPOSALS TO THE SAG:

1. CAPE TOWN FIVE MET THIS AFTERNOON (MARCH 23) TO REVIEW THE
PROPOSED DRAFT LETTER TO SOUTH AFRICA ON THE REVISE
PROPOSALS
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(USUN 1048). THE GROUP FOUND IT TO BE AN EXCELLENT DRAFT
AND ONLY HAD MINOR COMMENTS TO MAKE. THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR
HAD NOT YET RECEIVED THE DOCUMENT AND, WHILE AGREEING
WITH THE COMMENTS WHICH FOLLOW, RESERVED THE RIGHT TO
MAKE ADDITIONAL OBSERVATIONS.

(A) PARA 2: WE ANTICIPATE THAT THE SOUTH AFRICANS MAY

ASK US WHO THE "OTHER PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED" ARE IN THE LAST SENTENCE. BASED ON WHAT WE HAVE DONE IN THE PAST, THEY MAY BE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED TO KNOW WHETHER WE PLAN TO GIVE THE DOCUMENT TO INTERNAL NAMIBIAN GROUPS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON HOW TO ANSWER THIS QUESTION. OUR VIEW IS THAT THE PROPOSALS SHOULD BE HANDED TO THE INTERNAL GROUPS SOON AFTER THE PRESENTATION TO THE PRINCIPALS.

(B) PARA 7: WE FEEL THAT THE LAST CLAUSE OF THE FIFTH SENTENCE MAY BE INTERPRETED BY OTHER AFRICAN GROUPS AS AN INVITATION TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE THEIR PRESENT HEAVY INVOLVEMENT IN THE TERRITORY'S AFFAIRS. WE WOULD THEREFORE PREFER TO REPHRASE THE LAST CLAUSE AS FOLLOWS: "...AND CERTAIN CONSEQUENCES WILL FOLLOW FOR YOUR GOVERNMENT."

(C) PARA 9: IN THE SIXTH SENTENCE WE NOTE THAT A REFERENCE IS MADE TO "SOUTH AFRICAN CIVILIANS" AS HELPING TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE PROTECTION "OF THE NORTHERN INSTALLATIONS." MAY WE ASSUME THAT THIS TERM INCLUDES POLICE DETACHMENTS?

(D) PARA 9: IN THE SEVENTH SENTENCE WE SUGGEST DROPPING THE DESCRIPTION "NON-POLITICAL" AS UNNECESSARY AND LIKELY TO BE MISINTERPRETED.

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(E) PARA 11: WE NOTE THAT ONLY THE TITLE OF THIS PARAGRAPH IS MENTIONED IN THE DRAFT WE HAVE RECEIVED WITHOUT ANY SUPPORTING EXPLANATION. WE ASSUME THAT IT WILL BE PROVIDED OR THE PARAGRAPH DROPPED AND HANDLED ORALLY. WE WOULD PREFER THE LATTER.

(F) PARA 12: WE NOTE THAT IN THE LAST SENTENCE THE ROLE OF THE UNHCR IS MENTIONED BUT NOT THAT OF OTHER APPROPRIATE INTERNATIONAL BODIES AS REFLECTED IN PARA 7(D) OF THE PROPOSALS. IN OUR CONVERSATION WITH BRAND FOURIE ON MARCH 14 HE HINTED THAT A BODY SUCH AS INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS WOULD BE MORE ACCEPTABLE THAN THE HIGH COMMISSIONER. WE BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD USE THE LANGUAGE OF PARA 7(D) OF THE PROPOSALS. WE WOULD ACCORDINGLY REDRAFT THIS PARA AS FOLLOWS: "...AND YOU WILL ALSO BE AWARE THAT OUR PROPOSAL ENVISAGES AN IMPORTANT ROLE FOR THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES AND OTHER APPROPRIATE INTERNATIONAL BODIES, WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE WHO IN TURN WILL NO DOUBT TRANSMIT TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND THOSE BODIES ANY CONCERNS EXPRESSED..."

2. WITH REGARD TO THE TIMING OF PRESENTATION TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT, WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER

WILL NOT BE BACK IN CAPE TOWN UNTIL TUESDAY, MARCH 28.
IF THE DOCUMENT IS TO BE GIVEN TO THE FRONT LINE
PRESIDENTS DURING THE SUMMIT MEETING THIS WEEKEND, AS
WELL AS TO SAM NUJOMA, WE BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD GIVE
BRAND FOURIE ADVANCE COPIES OF THE PROPOSALS AND THE
COVERING LETTER AT ROUGHLY THE SAME TIME, LEAVING THE
TALKING POINTS FOR THE FORMAL PRESENTATION ON MARCH 28.
FOURIE WILL BE AVAILABLE ON SATURDAY.
BOWDLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PAPERS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
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Draft Date: 23 mar 1978
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Disposition Reason:
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TAGS: PORG, WA, SF
To: STATE USUN NEW YORK
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